



# THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

September 8, 1988

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. med. Reimar Hartge  
Wiesenstr. 77  
D-3000 Hannover 1  
West Germany

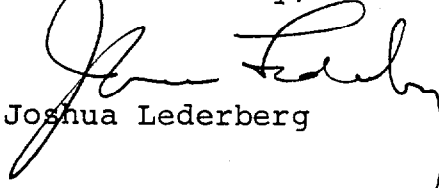
Dear Dr. Hartge:

I thank you for your letter of August 8th which was awaiting my recent return from vacation travel.

You have asked me for references describing the historical roots of the concepts of genetic engineering. My published remarks on this subject date from the early 1960s including the quotation that you referred to as a "famous statement" about 180 cms. of DNA. This in fact did come from one of my earliest writings on the subject, namely at a Ciba Symposium in London in 1962. My most extensive discussion of the possibilities and ethical, as well as scientific, challenges of genetic engineering appeared in 1972. I really have had very little to add to that statement and have endeavored to let others contribute to the debate since that time. I hope that the interview as published by Die Zeit came out in print consistent with what I said and with what I have written earlier.

I hope this meets your needs as stated in your letter.  
With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg

Encls.

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(never sent  
by inadvertence)